



GENERAL INFORMATION

Several sources of maps that cover the hunt area are available. The Los Padres National Forest publishes the Recreation Map for the Forest, at a 1/2 inch per mile scale, which is a good general guide for much of the hunt area. Please call (805) 925-9538 for information on obtaining a map.

The Bureau of Land Management (BLM) publishes an excellent series of maps that cover the hunt zone. The Taft and San Luis Obispo maps will be the most useful to you. There are at a scale of 1:100,000, and show contours as well as land ownership. BLM also produces a land ownership map for the Carrizo Plain National Monument. Acquisition of this map is recommended for people unfamiliar with the area. These may be available from the BLM office in Bakersfield at (661) 391-6000.

The U.S. Geological Service publishes several maps that cover the area. These are in the 7.5 minute series, with a scale of 1:24,000 (1 inch per 2,000 feet). The most useful for you will be the Branch Mountain, Los Machos Hills, Caldwell Mesa, Miranda Pine Mountain, Chimney Canyon, Huasna Peak, California Valley, La Panza, Pozo Summit, Caliente Mountain, Chimineas Ranch and the Painted Rock Quads. Not all of the land covered on these maps will be open to hunting, and they aren't inexpensive, so we suggest that you get the Forest Service and/or BLM maps first, and then decide which of the topographical sheets you need. These are generally available at outdoor shops, backpacking stores and so forth.

The weather during the hunts can be changeable. Period 1 may be hot, but Period 2 should start to cool off. If it rains, roads will be impassable for a period of time, usually only a few days. Fire danger this year is extreme, so call ahead to the Forest Service at the number above for the latest on campground information. There are two BLM camping areas within the Carrizo Plain National Monument at the KCL Ranch and at the Selby Ranch; several small camps are also available within the Los Padres National Forest. All camps are primitive, with no potable water available, so bring your own.

A list of licensed guides that work in San Luis Obispo County is available from the Department of Fish and Game (DFG) at (916) 227-2244. Only a very few of these guides will be able to assist you, but it may be worth while to get the information. Mention of individuals does not signify Department endorsement. The names are given for information only.

If your hunt is successful, remove one of the front teeth from the lower jaw. The tooth will be used to determine the animal's age. Place the tooth in the envelope provided and mail to: California DFG P. O. Box 6360, Los Osos, California 94312.

All tag holders are required to attend hunter orientation. For more information, please contact the DFG personnel assigned to the San Luis Obispo area by telephone at (805) 528-8670. You may also contact the Department's regional office in Yountville at (707) 944-5500. Best wishes for a safe and enjoyable hunt.